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REVIEW OF INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING

Edited and published by
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Listener Insights On Programming

A R G E N T I N A (Tom Blossom, OH) RAE is publishing quarterly program schedules again. Send a minimum of 5 envelopes with your name and address, assuring you will receive them for a year, to: RAE, Ayacucho 1556, 1112 Buenos Aires.

gh: But just try to pick them up! Reception is usually lousy at 2300 on 11710 and at 0300 on 9690; I don't know about 0600. It's hard to believe they are running their full rated 100 kW. Also, I've had a report from Mario Jorge Safier that R. El Mundo also has an English program, Tue-Sat at 0600-0700, on 6120 and 11780. Though he didn't say so, I would suspect it is the same program RAE carries at that time. REM has relayed RAE in the past.

A U S T R A L I A (David R. Alpert, IL) R. Australia has always been one of my favorite stations; I do much of my listening in the pre-dawn hours, and RA is always available with a decent signal. Lately, though, I've been listening to something even better: VLW15, ABC's domestic station on 15425. Hourly world news, local news, and a nice mix of popular music make for most enjoyable listening. Unfortunately, thev sign off at 0940, and the other ABC regional channels of 6140 and 9610 are usually inaudible here. They ID as "WF", apparently signifying this is a relay of MW station 6WF in Perth. Correct, Glenn?

gh: Correct. If you listened a little later, like post-dawn, I think you would find 9610 giving an equally good signal; but some interference has been encroaching.

(Edwin Southwell, England) I think R. Australia's programme format is excellent with the mixture of information and music. The best station for news about Asia with Asia Report on Sundays at 0810 GMT. As I find reception of R. Japan unreliable. Another feature worth listening to is Denis Gibbons Sings, Saturday at 0710. It's a pleasant change to listen to this type of programming on shortwave.

B E L G I U M (Bruce Boomer, WV) Station Profile - Belgische Radio & Televisie

BRT finds itself in a strange situation--it has perhaps the finest studio facilities available in its impressive new building, but is lacking in more important things. The strongest power BRT can beam to North America is 100 kW (due to antenna restrictions, the 250 kW transmitters can only be used for Africa) and they are losing possibly their biggest potential audience by having no foreign language frequency for Europe (although there is now talk of programs on a newly planned MW facility). For the English service, a team of three do the writing, editing and announcing for the majority of the programming, but some freelance material is also used. What the BRT programming lacks in radio power is offset by the friendliness and interest of the staff both on the air and off.

David Monson, the presenter of the programs, has been working with BRT for about 7 years. Frans Vossen has lived in Zaire and is quite interested in SW radio and world news. Frieda von Wych brings her experience in newspaper work and domestic radio in Belgium, to the English program.

To a small operation such as the BRT, listener response is very important. Looking thru the mail, I saw that most of the letters were only reception reports and many of those were obviously phony using data from the WRTH or an out-of-date schedule, with one 'reporter' creating a list of news items that were obviously not the type aired on "Brussels Calling." This points out again the need for listeners to comment on any program--both the good and the bad. How many people really like "Shipping News" on the BRT, for example. Unless the useful mail comes in, the programming will never rise to its full potential. Even in RIB we constantly need to remind ourselves of this, since in every broadcasting organization I have visited in Europe, this has been a topic of importance.

At BRT, the English service has one hour of studio time to tape the 45-minute program. Then there are 15 minutes that may be needed for last minute editing and running the tape (literally) up the stairs to the shortwave control booth. David Monson preferred the live broadcasts which

they did in the old building, when the mistakes went out on the air--a different atmosphere prevailed under those circumstances.

Production of the program is as informal as it sounds on the air. An outline of the features is drawn up but how they are joined together and fit into 45 minutes is a matter of chance in the actual recording. This loose organization and informal feel seems to be one of the listener's main reasons for tuning in to Brussels Calling.

gh: As far as I know, this has stayed on the much-too-low 6080 kHz all summer (unlike last summer) in the North American broadcast at 0015-0100. Could it be they are unable to broadcast our way on 15 MHz?

C A N A D A (Louis Goldstein, MA) CBC Northern Service info. Our friend, Mr. Freygood, has been rescheduled to 1445 GMT approximately on Mondays. A great sense of humor. CBC NS printed sked is out of date before it goes to printers. I have found it impossible trying to get updated info from them by mail. They are quite unaware what is going on at NS. On Tuesdays at 1804 they recently repeated a BBC serial THE DARK ISLAND, heard last summer on CBC NS. Same for serial on Thursdays they recently completed from BBC and also heard last summer on CBC NS, THE TOFF and CASE OF THE DISAPPEARING BRIDE. Some months ago I complained about the BBC touting a new crime serial INSPECTOR WEST AT BAY while CBC NS had aired this last summer already. Well, CBC NS is repeating this summer. According to a June 29 letter from NS Audience Relations,

> "The Monday to Friday programs at 2.04 pm ET are not repeats from last year, but they are the same type of programs broadcast as summer replacements until the regular "School Broadcasts" return on October 9/78.
>
> "The Monday to Friday slot at 8.04 pm ET is also being replaced by other programs during the summer months, with the exception of Thursday's "Playhouse" which continues. We expect to return to the original line-up in early October, although this is not yet a firm commitment.
>
> "We issue the program schedule in May and November and do not issue updates. Any major program changes are promoted in the morning "Today" program (Mondays to Saturdays 6:30 am.)"

On last edition of FOCUS NORTH which went off air 16 June, the young lady announced that they would return at 0004 UTC in Sept. This will wipe out all the excellent comedy and dramatic shows aired via CBC Network in 0004 UTC time slot weeknights. RCI extending ½ hr CBC domestic relay on weeknights would solve problem and really be a goodwill gesture from Canada to SWLs. Remember I really got enthusiastic about JOHNNY CHASE, SECRET AGENT OF SPACE. For those lucky enough to get CBC FM signals the series has been aired on Saturdays in stereo starting week or two before 10 July. New episodes will be aired this Fall, on AM Net.

RCAF 13 week replacement is called FLIPPED SIDES. Excerpts from British and Canadian humor on records with a humorless introducer who hit the nail on the proverbial head when he questioned his being on show. I question the show. RCAF repeats would have been more welcome.

At approximately 2330 UTC daily AIH airs its SUMMER THEATRE. Wish they would retain opening and closing credits so we could be informed who are actors featured and other personalities. Mon...BOSTON BLACKIE. Tues...SCREEN DIRECTORS PLAYHOUSE. Wed...JUST A MINUTE(BBC). Thurs... (X - 1). Fri...Alan Ladd in BOX 13.

Summer lineup for CBC NS, 0004 UTC Tue-Sat, as on CBC AM NET: Tues, PLAY IT AGAIN, BOB!--from the early days of records. Wed, LIVE WIRES--Canadian comedy. Thurs, NEW VINTAGE--new recordings from Canada. Fri, PLAYHOUSE. Sat, PANNING FOR GOLD--talk, play, book & movie reviews. After 0000 CBC News, NS still airs tape with wrong freq--6065 instead of 6195 kHz.

(Richard Stoller, NY) I was interested by the description of how "Sunday Morning" is put together (RIB-15). I would be even more interested if Mr. James could tell us how "As It Happens" is assembled: what is canned, what is not, etc., etc. Surely they don't wake all those Africans and Europeans for interviews at 0100 local...

gh: I spent a week in Toronto in July, and among other things, Roger Abbott of "RCAF" showed me around CBC. He is, by the way, an independent producer and doesn't work for CBC per se. You wouldn't believe what an ancient, tarnished building CBC-Toronto is in at 354 Jarvis St...

a far cry from the gleaming, ultra-modern Maison de Radio-Canada in Montréal. But, inside there is no lack of state-of-the-art equipment. We ran into Nancy White checking out a record. I asked her about why Gary Dunford (who also does a Toronto newspaper column) was no longer being credited as the writer of the "Sunday Morning Week In Review", read by Allan McFee. She refused to discuss the matter with me, but I've noticed since that he is again credited. Thru a studio window I spied Alan Maitland taping a segment of AIH, and he did not appear to be as obese as he has hinted. Little you hear on AIH is live. In fact, nothing, if you listen on SW. Almost all Canadian radio programs, even though fed from Toronto, first go out an hour earlier for the Atlantic time zone. In another room I saw a group of computer-controlled tape machines, responsible for taping and delaying all the programs so that they come out at the same local time in each zone. (Even though the CBC NS transmitters are in the Atlantic time zone, the programming is taken from the Eastern zone feed as available in Montreal studios). Roger was quite unhappy about the new Sunday 1:05 pm time for his "RCAF". It resulted from a suggestion by one listener that it would be nice to have the FM airing on a different day from the AM airing, and Roger wasn't consulted. He and others of his crew have been spending a lot of time in Los Angeles lately, and it's possible an Americanized version of RCAF will come along. I believe he was also involved in JOHNNY CHASE... as mentioned by Louis above. Also, CBC has approached NPR about taking some programs such as "RCAF"! But no outcome on this negotiation was known. NPR is phasing in a satellite-networking system which at the outset will mean a minimum of four simultaneous network lines available to each affiliate, and ultimately as many as 24. I suggest that now is the time for CBC and BBC fans to lobby for the dedication of one or two of these circuits to CBC and BBC, so all their programs would be available to U.S. NPR affiliates. Write to National Public Radio, 2025 M St, NW, Washington, DC 20036, with a copy to your local NPR station.

(Richard Stoller, NY) Technical expertise seems to be a very rare commodity up in Sackville. Especially bad with the Northern Service, when transmitters pop off the air a few times each hour (which is bad), and local MW/FM IDs are aired instead of NS tapes (which can be interesting, as they occasionally let slip for enough time to get in some local news/weather). On GMT Monday 17 July at 2200, 5960 was playing the Deutsche Welle IS, and musical filler! Weird things are going on. Also, there's overmodulation on 9530, for the 2100-2200 French/English block, making the talk bad, and the music worse.

gh: Sackville can't be blamed for the 2nd problem--switching mixups on the CBC NS. All that is controlled in Montreal, I believe.

(Syd Osterman, Ont.) I heard Ian explain why we did not hear the correct DX Digest II over RCI. However, he merely added insult to injury by stating that it was only on the NA service, not mentioning the Africa service also had the same mix-up! Obviously no one checks the program, either before or as it goes out. From Papua New Guinea and Solomons gross errors are perhaps excusable, even humorous. But from Radio Canada, with the largest per capita broadcast expense in the world, such frequent errors should not be tolerated. The time has surely come for some changes. I am sure that a reduction in the budget would produce more interest in their jobs by the employees who remain--perhaps even some worthwhile programs.

Perhaps the above comment is a bit harsh--I'm sure that Ian is not at fault--it's just part of the general Canadian malaise. I feel that there is too much concern in Government, mainly, whether we should do things in English or French. Rather than doing things well, in the language of North America. I like to blow off some steam once in a while; at least RCI does give us DX Digest! However, I do wish they maintained a higher technical standard for it.

gh: We learned at the ANARC convention that at least in the Panineau Room of the MRC, it is possible to pick up SW signals off the air. I think the RCI control operators, deeper in the bowels of the building, should be required to monitor RCI off the air. Creatures of habit, the operators are accustomed to having only one program tape per day per service on weekdays, so having to work with three or more tapes on Sundays can be quite a difficult task for them. By the way, congratulations to Ian for putting on a really fine convention. It was my great pleasure to meet him and many other RIBbers for the first time there!

C H I N A (Mark Basick, CA) As for Will Sibus' comments on R. Peking's correspondence, it's been my experience that they won't send you anything on a regular basis (like a mailing list) but instead, they'll mail you everything from pennants, skeds, to copies of Peking Review, China Pictorial and other assorted magazines when you write in to them. I don't know why they don't operate a mailing list for their skeds. That calendar was a surprise last year. If you want to receive more of R. Peking's literature, just drop them a line; they've always been anxious to send it to me.

(David R. Alpert, IL) American Visits Chinese Radio/TV Facilities

A political event of a year and a half ago has turned broadcasting around 180 degrees in the PRC, according to an American actor who got a backstage glimpse of Chinese entertainment facilities.

Writing in Variety, Richard Shull reports the toppling of the so-called Gang of Four has started a new cultural revolution of sorts, in the entertainment industry. Following are excerpts of his report:

TV is still at an early stage of growth, reaching only 10 to 15% of the population. Studio facilities, at least at the Shanghai Broadcasting Studio, are quite simple, and heavily guarded--by a soldier at the front door with rifle and bayonet at the ready. "The Director also informed me that I was among the first Westerners to be permitted inside the studio. All the cloak-and-dagger escaped me, however, as the sum total of equipment appeared to me to be no more complex than at recently visited Springfield, Massachusetts, and Youngstown, Ohio." Observing a mobile unit outside the Peking Opera Theater "reminded me of mobile unit work I'd seen in New York in the late 1950's."

Radio production continues to coexist with TV, with dramatic and comedy shows seemingly broadcast with live studio audiences. (Shull did not visit any radio programs in production). "It is thought that even the Chinese consider radio drama to be a bit old-fashioned, and they were anxious to show me the latest equipment, facilities and styles." English language lessons are extremely popular.

"My guides were also interested in the current American slang. It appeared to me that the Chinese were preparing themselves for considerable expansion of their contact with America".

(Richard M. Utter, NY) (Cf Hambly in July RIB, p. 3) I insist that Peking's tuning signal continues to be "The East is Red".

gh: In case you haven't noticed, Albania has finally quit relaying R. Peking. No more 9780 and 7120v. Wonder if they got to keep the transmitters, anyway?

C U B A (Tony Jones, Paraguay) R. Habana is indeed a veritable source of accurate, red-hot, political information from the whole of Latin America, without the dated, dogmatic, presentation of R. Moscow. There are many people, including conservative priests and station managers, who listen regularly to this station, and who would never in their lives vote Communist. However, their broadcasts are weak on one point, in that they broadcast talks by exiled Communist leaders of South American countries, many of whom ought never to be placed before a microphone, so insipid are they. A better effect could be had by using professional broadcasters.

(David R. Alpert, IL) R. Havana apparently doesn't follow their schedule very well--they're sked in EG to N, C, and S America 0100-0600 on 11725; and 0330-0600 on 11760, but I heard them signing off almost 15 minutes early on 11760 July 3, and inaudible on 11725. Heard Michael Fine's letter read on "P O Box 7026" show.

C Z E C H O S L O V A K I A (Derek Lowe, AR) From R. Prague, I got a card to send to the President. A "ban the neutron bomb" statement, pre-addressed and all. It took me about five seconds to get mad enough to write them. My letter said, in part: "I try not to introduce politics into my correspondences with stations, but as you have already done this, I will follow suit. DXing is not a political hobby and DXers should not be used for political ends. I feel that you are using your listeners and correspondents for your own purposes, and I find this practice disgusting. If you can manage to send me only program schedules and listener contest information, I will be glad to remain on your mailing list. If you must send me such material,

I will be glad to be taken off it." I don't mind use of the airwaves for private profit, but blatant exploitation of listeners really tees me off.

C H I L E (Rob Harrington, CO) OK, RIB July, yes I was referring to Bob Pinchuk in RIB 16. His comments in RIB 16 were very good. In RIB 17, Diane S. Levesque, hay what's wrong with Bob giving his comments on VOC. What he said in RIB 16 is true. I heard their may be a mail embargo with VOC a friend who returned from Chile said the goverment may have put an embargo on VOC from answering mail. Unconfirmed embargo does any one know for sure?

(Arthur S. Getzel, NY) I have read with interest the comments about the programs of the Voice of Chile. I have to laugh. If, according to Mr. Pinchuk, their comments are factual, then we all have to admit that Radio Tirana should also win a prize for its objectivity. But let's face it--VOC, like any other broadcaster of a totalitarian government, exists for only one purpose; that is propaganda. And being that their comments are hysterical and cliché-ridden, they are not very effective. To me, anyone with a modicum of intelligence has to just laugh at what they are saying. There is nothing more foolish than a repressive government criticizing the repression of other governments. When Mr. Pinochet authorizes free elections, only then will his station have any relevance.

D O M I N I C A N R E P U B L I C et al. (Mark Basick, CA) Richard Stoller said in RIB-17, pp 5-6, that what makes R. Clarín more interesting than R. Nederland is the DR's more exciting history. I guess to some people, a revolution, military coups, etc., are 'fun' (as long as you are watching from a safe distance). Perhaps the Dutch government has had enough sense to satisfy Holland's needs so that a revolution or government overthrow hasn't been necessary. What's wrong with a country being at peace since WW II ??

It's also an accepted fact that culture, the arts, etc. flourish when a country is at peace, than in a politically restless nation. Do you think the USA would be where it is now if our government was as shaky as our LAm neighbors'??

Back to SW--BCers in countries with the worst political unrest today have such a low quality of programming that they've gotten very little mention even in RIB (for instance Ethiopia, Angola, Bolivia, etc.) These countries are in a much worse shape than DR, but if the conditions in DR worsen, R. Clarín could end up like these other SWBCs.

No, Holland hasn't had much blood 'n' guts in recent history. This is probably why the Dutch aren't paranoid toward revolution and are instead concerned with more constructive things like economic improvement, cultural advancements, etc. This is why we don't have to worry that a new regime might take Radio Nederland off the air.

E C U A D O R (Arthur S. Getzel, NY) Like many other people, I hate being forcefed religion on DX Party Line. If anything is inappropriate, Tips for Real Living is the leader. In some ways DXPL is like an American commercial television program, i.e., you build the program around the advertisement. Let's face it, the staff of HCJB is not interested in the content; their interest is in selling a product, and that product is religion.

(Richard Stoller, NY) DXPL continues to be singularly silly. Particularly crazy is the SPEEDX Report, by John Trautschold. Consider the program of July 15. This was one of those 'station profiles,' which are rather juvenile compilations of times, frequencies, and an always-fuzzy block of sample programming, which is invariably unintelligible. Today, he did a piece on the BBC. "Forgettable" is the nicest way I can describe it. First off, he says that "I'm sure you can figure out what station this is!!!" Then he played a crummy-quality year-old tape of the BBC-Ascension relay, which started off with Oranges & Lemons! Funny...they haven't used O&L for a year, right? Right.

Anyway, it turns out that the tape is so crummy because the transmission is for East Africa. Considering the fact that there were at least four channels beamed to the Americas at the time, it would seem that John went out of his way to make the tape difficult to understand. Ah, but then he goes into a long list of frequencies, which really is silly because anyone can usually find the BBC without looking for it anyway. But even the frequencies, which should be just a simple matter of reading off the back of a LONDON CALLING, are flubbed a bit, just for fun.

6195 is Sackville, says John. No, it's really Antigua...but I won't complain. HCJB just won't listen.

gh: 6195 is both, depending on the time.

(Tony Jones, Paraguay) One has to listen to non-English broadcasts to be able to extract any measurable amount of enjoyment from the transmissions of religious broadcasters. HCJB is possibly an exception, in that the Spanish programs are basically part of a domestic or regional service. Incidentally, this station has probably the best classical music program of any station world-wide, SW, MW, or FM. Called 'Sala de Concierto', it avoids the general trap of playing Mozart, Beethoven, etc., most of the time, and instead, devotes its time to the widest possible range of music, from the earliest of French church music to the works of twentieth century East European composers (some of them quite obscure). Full marks to a station whom I have often criticised in the past. For those interested in this or any other program, why not write HCJB Spanish section and ask for a program schedule.

gh: You haven't heard WUOT.

F I N L A N D (Bruce Boomer, WV) Station Profile of Radio Finland

The Yleisradio Office Building sits in a quiet park near a Sibelius memorial. Radio Finland finds itself in the unusual situation of having two homes---this office (with some studios) by day and a downtown older studio building at night. The English service apparently survives with only 3 full time journalists--Eddy Hawkins, Patrick Humphreys, and the boss--Juhani Niinistö. A large group of freelancers fill out the staff. Union rules are quite a sticky situation as union technicians must always do the editing (never a producer) and as I visited some of the free lancers were on strike. Nevertheless, Radio Finland puts out some very ambitious programming, including an introduction to the Finnish Language, which is receiving quite a bit of favorable response. Drama programs, which have to be specially translated into English, are the most expensive features in the schedule and the station is especially interested in hearing listeners' opinions of these radio plays.

Patrick Humphreys estimates that 20% of the mail is from the non-DX related public. Radio Finland appreciates useful detailed reception reports and has a new one a month 12-QSL series. However, due to lack of staff (one mail secretary), the QSLs are now the acknowledgement type card. The 250 kW transmitter has opened up reception in additional parts of the world, but the 100 kW one is more reliable, operations-wise. The beams used by R. Finland are limited by buildings crowding the Pori transmitter site. In order to transmit in some directions, all of the power would be beamed through apartment buildings. DX programs at R. Finland are a bit irregular due to DX editor David Mawby's location away from Helsinki, and lack of time due to his fulltime work in P.R. for a paper manufacturer. Future plans include a new building which will give a permanent home to the shortwave dept.

gh: On July 30, R. Finland broadcast some of the results of its recent 'reindeer skin' program survey. The most popular DX programs were: 1) R. Nederland DX Juke Box, 30% of the vote. 2) R. Sweden Calling DXers, 24%. 3) BBC World Radio Club, 12%. Feature programs: 9). R. Finland Stories from the Classics. 8) VOA Breakfast Show. 7 & 6 tied:) VOA Magazine Show, and HCJB Passport. 5) R. Sweden Swedish Scene. 4) R. Finland Out & About. 3) R. Sweden Saturday Show. 2) R. Nederland Happy Station. 1) R. Finland In Its Sunday Best, which got 16% of the total. As for mailbag programs, R. Finland's International Letterbox was first, with over 50% of the vote. They admitted that a shade of bias may have crept into the results, even tho participants were urged to be honest and not play up to Radio Finland.

G E R M A N Y W E S T (David R. Alpert, IL) DW at 0530 to WNAm on 9645 kHz, listed as Sackville, but according to s/on announcement is Antigua; "this is radio DW Caribbean relay station" Signal strength is good here, but I can't say the same for the signal Antigua is picking up off the air from Cologne--sometimes all they're relaying is static!! On July 11, Cologne was dumped at 0545, an announcement came on explaining 'technical difficulties' were interrupting normal programming, and we were treated to filler music, for the remainder of the transmission. Looks like DW wasted a lot of money on those relay stations.

H U N G A R Y (gh) R. Budapest noted airing its DX program within normal programming block, GMT Sunday at 0315, and asking for listener reaction to this. I'm for it, as the 0400 time is inconveniently late in the EDT zone. Maybe it's just a summer aberration, but more and more space in their program guide, Budapest International, is being devoted to transcripts of previously broadcast programs, and less and less to info on upcoming programs. August features include: Driving Instruction and Water Sports, Aug. 13-14; Career or Children? Aug 15-16; Of Crowns and Constitutions, Aug. 20-21; Security and Single Parent, Aug. 22-23; What is the Tihany Echo, Aug. 26-27; Government and Birth Rate, Aug. 28-29. The times are 2100, 0200 and 0300 GMT on Aug. 13, 15, 20, 22, 26, 28; 1030, 1200 and 1430 on Aug. 14, 16, 21, 23, 27, 29.

I S R A E L (gh) Israel Radio's "Calling All Listeners" really let its hair down on July 30; quite a pleasant change. Even though RIB's Michael Fine (Shafir) can't sing, we heard him rendering "Won't You Come Home, Israeli?" to the tune of "...Bill Baily" as one listener had suggested, and we also heard some German martial music, along with a trivial discussion of whether "West Germany" was the correct name, or "German Federal Republic". Seriously, Israel Radio may be putting more emphasis on immigration, as much of its funding comes from the Jewish Agency. Per a newspaper story, they are beginning to wonder what they're getting for their money, when technicians refuse to work past 1 a.m. local (2300 GMT), preventing IBA from putting on a prime-time service to North America. But let's hope that we don't have to pay for the eventual resolution of this impasse, with an increase in Zionist promotion, damaging Israel Radio's credibility.

Weekly Broadcast Schedule
of Radio Korea's
English language service

Programme Schedule (Overseas Service)

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
0-10	News Highlights	News					
10-15	K.B.S. Magazine	Radio Korea Editorial					
15-30		Listeners' Corner	Korean Culture Past & Present	North Korea Inside & Out	Korea Marches on	K.B.S. Salon	Melodies of Korea

Time & Frequency (Effective June 5, 1978)

Service Area	Frequency	Time (GMT)	Service Area	Frequency	Time (GMT)
Europe	9.650 mHz 9.710 mHz	23:00-23:30 hrs. 11:30-12:00 hrs. 13:30-14:00 hrs.	Latin America	9.580 mHz 11.850 mHz	10:00-10:30 hrs. 02:30-03:00 hrs.
	11.965 mHz	11:30-12:00 hrs. 13:30-14:00 hrs.	General Service	7.150 mHz	11:30-12:00 hrs. 16:00-16:30 hrs.
	15.205 mHz	06:30-07:00 hrs.		9.640 mHz 9.525 mHz	23:00-23:30 hrs. 10:00-10:30 hrs.
North America	9.640 mHz	06:30-07:00 hrs. 16:00-16:30 hrs.	Domestic Service	600 kHz 750 kHz	11:30-12:00 hrs. 20:30-21:00 hrs. 09:30-10:00 hrs.
	9.720 mHz	16:00-16:30 hrs. 18:00-18:30 hrs.			

gh: If response is favorable, I will try to reproduce each month the program schedule of a particular station. Comments, please.

K O R E A S O U T H (Todd Thompson, CA) It appears that R. Korea's address is not the problem in writing to them (RIBs 14, 15, 16). It must be the Korean PO that's to blame. Last August, I wrote to RK and requested some info on Korea. They read my letter on their "Listeners Corner" programme and promised to send out the requested info. Five months later I wrote them again to find out why I hadn't received it yet. Miss Kang, Kyung-wha replied, saying that the material was indeed sent out. Anyway, she kindly granted my request and sent it again, which I received--well, almost. A tourist booklet, which I was to receive under a separate cover, never came. RK seems quite responsive to Listeners' requests; it's too bad they have to put up with the Korean PO. By the way, tune in to "Listener's Corner," Mondays at 1615, 1815. The presentation is polite, to say the least.

N E T H E R L A N D S (David R. Alpert, IL) RN inaugurated their new satellite feed system July 2, and marked the event with a 24-hour marathon edition of the "Happy Station" program. Tom Meijer did the whole thing live, taking phone calls from around the world. RN is issuing two limited edition QSL cards, one to verify reports of July 2, the other to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Happy Station. Tom ended the marathon broadcast 0625 July 3 with the song "They're Coming to Take Me Away Ha Ha".

gh: I don't normally listen to HS, but the novelty of this encouraged me to. Poor Tom just doesn't have enough to talk about, to avoid the tired old clichés like "this is the Lima program" for one broadcast, let alone a whole string of them. And I don't really give a damn what his policy is on record requests, but I sure get tired of hearing it explained.

(Todd Thompson, CA) Maybe I'm crazy, but I liked Tom Meijer's "SW Marathon" and for some reason I was compelled to listen to 6 of his shows (4 in English, 2 in Spanish). With so many recorded programmes around these days, it's really good to hear something live on SW for a change, and besides, I was waiting to hear Mr. Smiles doze off. The music he played seemed more mainstream than usual, and the call-ins, tho mundane, proved interesting. RN's cable/satellite setup is really a needed improvement, tho I noticed they were having some problems with the cable in early July. Hopefully, they'll get the bugs out soon. HS will apparently be live to NAm once a month from now on.

gh: For more on NETHERLANDS, see under DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, page 6.

N E T H E R L A N D S A N T I L L E S etc. (Richard Stoller, NY) Just received the latest mailing from TWR, complete with the gouging-in-the-name-of-Jesus, and the various cutesy items about the various personnel at the various sites. This particular mailing had a folder about a visit to China by TWR czar Paul Freed, Ph.D., ABC, XYZ. First off, I'm surprised the Chinese even let this guy into China in the first place, as religion doesn't go down all that well with the Reds. Anyway, looking at the cover, with "CHINA" in bold, pseudo-oriental brush-strokes, I expected to hear the old lines about hunger, starvation, mass murders, and lots of photos of sad faces.

Refreshing change, though. Freed admitted that "China welcomed me", and gave a pretty good picture of Chinese social/economic priorities, etc. Of course, there were the standard "religion is almost dead, but not quite" lines, and how the old people still keep the faith alive, etc., etc., etc....but I was surprised and pleased to see such a well-balanced piece of writing from a bunch of evangelists.

N E W Z E A L A N D (Todd Thompson, CA) R. New Zealand's relay of the "National Programme" offers an excellent view into the happenings of NZ. Since the broadcast is basically the home service, SWLs get to hear what the Kiwis themselves hear. Particularly interesting is "Evening Report" at 0600 weekdays, which features top-flight world, national and Wellington regional news. It's really amazing how clear RNZ's 7.5 kW signal is heard here on the coast. They come in particularly well on 15130 at 0500-0730. The 19m band really seems like the Pacific Band from

0500 on, with R. Tahiti, R. Australia and RNZ all putting out great signals. West Coast SWLs should find good listening here.

(Tony King, R. New Zealand) RNZ extends its sked to cover the NZ Cricket tour of England, on Aug. 10, 11, 12, 14, 24, 25, 26, 28, 29: 1035-1235 GMT on 6105 and 9620; 1235-1730 GMT on 6105. Also, RNZ SW will issue a special 30th anniversary QSL throughout September--for all September reports. Best letters will be in my Mailbox program on October 15. Regards,

P A P U A N E W G U I N E A (via Allan Troster, Ont.) On March 8, NBC surface-mailed a complete National Network "Announcers' Schedule" dated 11th October, 1977, and which was received in July, 1978. Here are gh's picks of some of the more interesting titles; check 9520 kHz to 0830 or so, and afterwards, 4890 (or, 4760!).

Sunday: 0600 TOMORROW NA TOMORROW. 0915 GRADE 10 QUIZ. 0945 CHOIRS OF PNG. 1000 PAPUA NEW GUINEA DRAMA. 1030 SCIENCE & YOU. 1100 NATIONAL NEWS. 1110 STOP NA TINGTING. 1305 SUNDAY NIGHT CLASSICS.

Monday: 0920 UNIVERSITY WITHOUT WALLS. 1030 PNG FAVOURITES. 1125 PRODUCE PRICES. 1130 YUMI OLGETA.

Tuesday: 1025 LUK LUK NABAUT. 1105 MAN ON THE LAND.

Wednesday: 0730 PNG ARTISTS. 0930 PNG MAGAZINE. 1105 MAN ON THE LAND. 1130 MY KIND OF WEDNESDAY.

Thursday: 0930 INSIGHT/NEWSMEN. 1105 MAN ON THE LAND. 1205 PNG FAVOURITES.

Friday: 0810 LET'S LOOK AT THE WEEK'S NEWS. 0910 CONTACT. 0930 UNIVERSITY ON AIR. 1130 PNG FAVOURITES.

Saturday: 0600 SONGS OF THE ISLANDS. 0630 TAKE SIXTY. 0730 LISTENERS' CHOICE. 0820 LOCAL SPORTING ROUNDUP. 0910 QUEEN EMMA OF THE SOUTH SEAS. 0940 SOUNDS OF THE 70'S. 1100 PNG STRING BANDS. 1230 DISCO TO MIDNIGHT.

P H I L I P P I N E S (Gerry Bishop, PA) FEBC future plans. They have two transmitter sites already for SW, Iba and Bocaue, but they are indistinguishable per WRTH. A card from them says their objective is to build several SW antennas at Iba to reach our target area with a much stronger signal; move one of the 50 kW xmtrs at Bocaue to Iba and raise the power to 100 kW. Cost: $82,000 US. It is referred to as the "Iba-Bocaue Upgrade Phase I". I call it double talk. For the last six months I've been given the impression that their money was quite tight. Ah, well, praise the Lord and pass the hat.

I suppose it will make little difference to us as far as reception or program content are concerned, but as an insight into station affairs and operation, this is a real gem. They are moving some 50 miles, and I can't see a damn bit of sense in it. "Raising the xmtr power," yea, I can see that; "Better antennas" is also acceptable. But moving? That is like WINB relocating to Harrisburg from Red Lion, an awful lot of money spent, without any real improvement made. And where will they get the 82 G's? By spending more money and pestering everybody on the mailing list for a 'special donation'. gh: More under SAIPAN below.

P O L A N D (Edwin Southwell, England) I think the best programmes from Eastern European stations come from Polish Radio. They have some excellent programmes like Anglo-Polish magazine, science magazine and maritime magazine. But at times I find the schedule a bit difficult to follow.

gh= I find getting a program schedule from them a bit difficult.

P O R T U G A L (Richard Stoller, NY) Rdif. Portuguesa has replaced the vocal version of "A Portuguesa" with an all-orchestral one, as far as I can tell. Sounds much better.

S A I P A N (Gerry Bishop, PA) Cart before the horse dept. FEBC already have one 100 kW xmtr in storage; 'plans call for at least 2 100 kW into some high gain antennas.' My intuitive guess is that they'll beon the air in mid-81 at the earliest.

S P A I N (Todd Thompson, CA) Wow! Spanish Foreign Radio's 0515 transmission comes in great here. I couldn't believe it was Spain I was hearing with that clear signal. The new time slot is more convenient, for us on the West Coast anyway. SFR's news service seems surprizingly objective and the overall programme is quite interesting. Hats off to SFR! They're really getting it together.

gh: On July 1, SFR began using the 350-kW Noblejas transmitters to North America, instead of the old 100 kW Argandans, and schedule was changed to 0000-0100, 0100-0200, and 0515-0615, all on new 9630 ex-6065, and 11880. BBCMS says 9360 also used at 0000, but not so August 6 anyway.

(Mark Basick, CA) At last, guess what I got from REE?? Yep, a detailed programme sked!! After several letters in English to them, I decided to try out my junior high and high school Spanish. In return, I received an attractive, if slightly confusing sked. It's very helpful even if it is only for the Spanish language broadcasts.

I also received a very friendly letter with it from Mr. Ambrosio Wang (in Spanish). He gave me a simplified explanation of the structure of the RTVE network and where REE fits in. REE uses the resources of the RTVE net which has 7000 employees across Spain. He also explains that tho' REE tries to produce original programmes, they occasionally use those of the domestic services 'as the need arises.' Also, the programming is designed for the individual target areas. So that the Spanish programmes for America are not necessarily the same as those for Europe, the Philippines, etc. Also, REE broadcasts special programmes for Spaniards living abroad and for Spaniards at sea. These go under the division of the Servicio Español. This is separate from the Servicio Internacional which are for listeners around the world to provide an awareness to Spanish culture, history and news.

I think we listeners should be very thankful when a radio personality takes time out to write letters to his listeners. They're paid for broadcasting, not for writing letters and their using their own time is much appreciated.

gh: We had the pleasure of meeting Ambrosio at ANARC Montreal. Truly the DX listener's friend; and he deserves the credit for the great improvements in REE's DX programs. It's nice to see SFR undergoing its own renaissance, following that of Spain itself.

S W E D E N (Bruce Boomer, WV) Station Profile -- Radio Sweden.

Of the Nordic SW stations, Radio Sweden is the largest. It has a larger English staff and more studios, but otherwise is similar to the setup of the other Nordic stations. With Arne Skoog as my guide, I saw the facilities and realized that SWBC is a nighttime business in Europe --at 9 AM most of the offices and studios were deserted. Looking at the DX mail, I saw what a difficult job it is to edit SCDX. Written in several languages, the reports ranged from brief, pencil-scribbled, unreadable tips to several pages of typed treatises on pirate broadcasting. To get a brief DX program out of all that mail is a chore. Also I saw the entries to the SCDX Jubilee Contest--the winner had around 50 pages of details.

As the time got to be a bit more reasonable for SW broadcasters to go to work, gradually the familiar voices were heard in the hallways. I had the privilege of seeing creativity in action--the taping of skits for the Saturday Show. The setting sure wasn't impressive. Roger and Kim sit at a small table jammed in a room filled up with a large mixer, tape machines and turntables. With all the needed sound effects, music, etc., Roger and Kim have to share space with the engineer instead of hiding behind glass in a spacious studio.

Part 2 of this visit was a trip to the suburb city of Farsta, just south of Stockholm. In a large complex mainly concerned with telephones, a two-man staff plans the frequencies used by Radio Sweden. The biggest concerns are suitable frequencies to North America and India, since the other beams of R. Sweden are quite reliable and bothered less by seasonal variations. Reception reports received at Farsta are from other broadcasting organizations on an exchange basis, and reports from volunteer monitors. Reports sent to Stockholm are not forwarded to Farsta. However, if the Stockholm mail contains some important news, such as a new reception problem noted by several listeners, word will be passed on to Farsta. The volunteer reports, such as from ANARC Frequency Recommendation Committee members, are usually considered the best, due to the personal attention and interest given by the listeners. Frequency planning will be even more important now since in the forseeable future, R. Sweden will use only two transmitters.

(George Wood, R. Sweden) Starting July 1 we have a new system where the first broadcast from each language group each day is 'live.' That is, the Panorama producer is live in the studio, introducing the pre-recorded pieces and the pre-recorded feature program at the end. Initially, this was conceived to give us a 'live' sound and to save money by requiring less studio time.

It really isn't live since after the first broadcast everything except the news is on tape (and the news is taped for North America anyway, since we can't afford a night shift). Any good producer ought to sound just as live in a studio taping as on the air, but the administration seems to think a few stumbles make for 'live' radio. Actually the new system requires more studio time than the old, so they haven't saved anything. They've reduced our morning studio time from 1½ to 1 hour, which is still enough for most producers to record the entire program anyway, so most of our programs since July 1 have been taped and not 'live'. And a lot of that new studio time later in the day goes unused.

The main beneficiaries of the new system are the French group--who can go live later in the day, rather than prerecord at a terribly early hour.

All that crabbing aside, the only effect this will have on our programs is first that the evening news person no longer has studio time to record the press review, so the producer will resume doing that, removing one less voice from the program and making it correspondingly more dull. And all features are now to end with two minutes of music, to help us have a little more leeway with our timings. That means, having won the fight for a 12 minute DX program at last, I have now been reduced to a 10 minute DX program plus 2 minutes of music.

However, I have also stumbled onto a tape of Arne Skoog playing Swedish folk music on his fiddle. So, if I can get the bureaucrats to approve it (there are royalty hassles) the program will be ending each week from now on with Arne Skoog on fiddle. Which will be a nice touch.

There's been good response to the Tune In feature, which is included in the radio program, but not in the written bulletins, as they reflect the programs I write for all the language groups, and not special features in the English program. Diane Lévesque was responsible for pushing me into putting talk into action and actually taking the program in that direction. I started off using just material from RIB and the Programme Listener column of "Short Wave News". Now, not only have several other magazines started similar columns, but the feature is generating its own feedback. I do hope people have been enjoying SW Corner. With enough positive mail on it, I might be able to put it on in the future as a monthly, or maybe as a summer fill-in.

S W I T Z E R L A N D (Tom Blossom, OH) Station Profile -- SBC

1 Giacomettistrasse, just off the Autobahn to the Oberland south of Berne, in two nice buildings on the west side of the Swiss Federal Capital, is the Swiss Broadcasting Corporation (SRG in German). The receptionist was small, cute, friendly, and gave me my first taste of Swiss chocolate. It was Wednesday afternoon, June 14th, my second day in Switzerland, on the way to a course on local theological developments in the third world. I walked from the famed Rosen Garten restaurant overlooking old Berne where the God-parents of my year-long exchange-student daughter of two years ago had treated me to lunch.

SBC Press Officer W. Fankhauser had requested I send him an arrival time, but he had not received my response. So I waited 40 minutes until 2:10 PM for his arrival by bike. F. does all P.R. for SBC broadcasting and transcription service. He gave me three hours of his time, even bought me an orange soda at the seventh floor rooftop cafeteria.

F. asked me what interested me, and we began a conversation that covered many areas. He took me to the master control where a young blonde woman with cigarette was at the operating position I shook hands with announcer J. Haller, middle-aged, who didn't seem interested in me. I was just in time for the 1315 English service, their primary English cast, the others taped except for the news portion.

At 1316 Haller was in the single studio for English. There were three other controls and booths, a little smaller. Another pretty young blonde emerged from upstairs at just the right moment to read the news. Haller introduced mostly pre-taped segments which the control woman handled, a very efficient and simple operation.

F. explained that SBC has five news sources: AP, UPI, Reuters, Tass, and Swiss news and correspondents; and they don't report anything unless two sources are in agreement on the situation. He asked my opinion of the objectivity of their news, which I said does seem objective

according to the way I look at reality. We shared quite a few opinions.

Further back there was a Portuguese segment being taped. Up the hall we visited the relay room to the PTT (Postal Telecommunications system), which had a full wall of relay boards. A Drake DSR-2 was evident. F. made the important point that the SBC transmits nothing, that PTT has all communications and technical responsibilities.

Even the receptionist asked about reception conditions in the U.S., but actually I sensed there wasn't too much to do about them. Mike McMahon, the head of the English service, didn't know, for instance, that 30 kW was the power being used on SSB. F. said they would change the morning 15140 frequency if they got enough mail and if another freq was available, but that their primary target for 1315 was the Middle East.

F. and I agreed that media information is becoming more influential and common. If the media present a picture of a news situation in a certain way, they tremendously influence world-wide perceptions. Though SBC has the two-source policy, F. said he sometimes suspects that one of the two takes the lead from the other.

F. noted that news seems to be becoming more homogeneous by the year, that even Radio Moscow news sounds increasingly like 'free world' news, though the commentary and analysis are still significantly different. We agreed this tendency is dangerous and discussed the possibility of a third-world network of reporters, very problematical if desirable.

F. impressed me as a serious student of journalism, and he had a richer command of the philosophical perspectives than anyone I have ever encountered. He spoke of the maturity of media journalism, which he believes is still in the infant stage, or at least the populace as a whole is still immature in its media tastes. Yet he feels the responsibility for that immaturity must be shared by the media themselves.

A notable difference of the SBC from the VOA is its popular-control, democratic structure. Swiss citizens pay sixty Swiss francs ($30) per year for radio privileges (any number per household), and 120 SFr per year for TV. The SBC portion used to be supplemented 30% from the federal treasury, but that is ending. Anyone who pays then may participate on an area SBC committee. Each area committee elects to a regional committee, and then to the national communications policy body. The SBC overseas service got an extra supplement from the national body to replace what they had lost from the confederation.

The SBC overseas is charged two-fold: to relate to Swiss abroad, and to relate Swiss culture and opinion to the world. The former is mostly accomplished in the German service. Regional Schweizer-Deutsch dialects are even used on week-end programs. This former service affects the Italian service somewhat, but the French service hardly at all.

The bulk of programming relates Swiss ways to the world. So the Arabic, Portuguese, Spanish and English services join the three main Swiss languages, plus Esperanto and Romansch. These combine for about 15,000 hours of broadcasting per year. That figures weekly to 62 hours of French, 80 hours German, 59 hours Italian, 49 hours English, 14 hours each Portuguese and Spanish, 10.5 hours Arabic, and Esperanto + Romansch 3 hours. 45.5 hours go to Europe omni-directionally, 35.25 hours Africa, 18 hours Asia, 16 hours N & C America, 12 hours S America, 5 hours Australia/NZ. The 1977 budget was Sfr 9,500,000.

In addition, the SBC has a transcription service, "Musica Helvetica", in English and Spanish, distributed free around the world, for unlimited use except in 'direct commercial context'. I counted 79 different offerings. Widest distribution is in Great Britain and the U.S. Total distribution as of Jan. 1977 was 368 stations and broadcasting organizations.

F. seemed MOST INTERESTED in getting an idea of how much these records are used, which they apparently have no way of ascertaining. When I asked what I might do in appreciation of the gracious afternoon, F. said to report anytime I heard "Musica Helvetica". (I noticed WUOT is listed, Glenn.)

In the recording studios section of SBC I saw the end of recording of "Talkback" for the following Saturday and met Mike McMahon and his counterpart, Barbara Reiser, both friendly although busy. M. and several others at SBC do not even speak German. McMahon is a Canadian, and he knew well when I referred to Earle Fisher in one of my program comments. The English service, which M. heads, has about six on the staff full-time. Many SBC staff serve several or all services. I asked about Arnold Hottinger, whose comments I often appreciate, and found he is a correspondent based in Portugal. F. is a part of a meeting of all section heads weekly.

SBC has about weathered a controversy in its Portuguese section. A Brazilian residing in Switzerland was particularly incensed about a year-end commentary including some facts which apparently reflected critically on the current state of affairs in Brazil. He appealed through the local committee, regional, then to the national policy body. An investigative group had to be formed which has now showed that all facts were doubtless true and the implications completely fair.

SBC-TV is presently undergoing a serious change. Until the present there has been a national TVnews each evening, translated into the various languages. Now the news is to be produced regionally, and there will be no unified, country-wide national news. Will the French regional news now cover far-away Italian-speaking Ticino or German-speaking Graubunden, and vice versa? Will Switzerland become increasingly culturally divided?

I complimented F. on SBC. Truly I can find out what they might relate on a particular situation in one-half hour rather than waiting all day to see what the admittedly far more comprehensive BBC has to relate.

F. gave me a few German and French handouts, and after two snapshots I ended an extremely rewarding visit.

gh: On Talkback, August 5, it was announced that the popular series THE NAME GAME would make a comeback in November. I just can't get over these 'musical' bridges they use in TALKBACK!

T A H I T I (Steven Kontos, NY) We too on the east coast of North America receive R. Tahiti very well. The music is also to my liking. Many reporters have given sign-off at 0730. Recently, however, I have noted Tahiti's ID and sign-off at around 0900. Best reception here on 11825.

U G A N D A (Mark Basick, CA) I can live without hearing the UBC North American service. I guess maybe I should give it a chance to prove itself, but I cannot believe a country that is led by such a nut like Idi Amin, or that carries out such atrocities like Uganda has, can possibly put out some good programming. When Idi Amin comes on telling everyone out there in Radioland what a real nice guy he really is, that'll be the same time when I'll be tuning away, far away, from UBC!!

U K O G B A N I (David R. Alpert, IL) Microfilmed scripts of BBC Radio newscasts, verbatim copy as read on the air including last minute additions and deletions, are now being sold internationally to libraries, government departments, and news media as a work of reference. This, according to Variety. Undertaking the project is the Cambridge publishing firm of Chadwyck-Healey Ltd. The initial batch covers the first quarter of this year, and is reproduced by micro fiche.

(Arthur S. Getzel, NY) One very interesting program on the BBC that I always enjoy is Alistair Cooke's "Letter from America". If you liked Mr. Cooke's commentaries on Masterpiece Theatre, you'll love his comments about what is going on in America, albeit, from a very British standpoint. To me, Mr. Cooke is American enough to understand us but also British enough to be amused by us.

gh: The Sept. RIB probably won't reach you until the middle of the month, so lacking Roger Peterson's preview, I will pick a few BBC World Service highlights for the first half of Sept. MANY REASONS WHY, a two-month long series on the Vietnam War, starts Sept. 11: Mons 0100, 0945; Thurs 1345. Same times week of Sept. 4, THE PAST DECADE IN ULSTER. THE HIDDEN ARM, scientific aids to crime detection, Suns 0745, Tues 0100, Weds 1115. Two programmes on LEO TOLSTOY, Tues 1430, Thurs 0330, Fri 2030, and his play THE KREUTZER SONATA, Sat Sept 9 2015, Sun 10th 0030, 1130. Sackville relay frequencies change, to 9510 at 1100-1330; 11775 & 17840 at (1500)1600-1709(1745), presumably as of Sept. 3. () indicates longer run on weekends.

U S A (Brad Lovett, OH) If WOWO in Ft. Wayne IN is such a 'national' station, as stated in a recent RIB, how do you explain their broadcasts of the Ft. Wayne Komets to half the country? The Komets are a local hockey team in a regional minor league, which has no appeal to anyone outside the city limits of Ft. Wayne! I live in an area where WOWO is considered a 'local'

station and nobody cares about the Komets here, let alone in Massachusetts! They should be on WGL, which is 250 watts nighttime.

'Scuse me, but why is it necessary for AFRTS to have their network news on 7-second delay? Every network I've ever worked with has very clear outcues for inserting their commercials. I'm sure this is all done by machine, but how does the delay help?

(David R. Alpert, IL) More additions to the AFRTS program sked, all times CDT.

Saturday	0317 CBS NEWS	0338 MBS WHAT'S THE ISSUE	0417 CBS NEWS
0300 AP NEWS	0324 NBC CONFRONTATION	0400 AP NEWS	0424 MBS NEWS
0306 UPI NEWS	0330 ABC-E NEWS	0406 UPI NEWS	0430 ABC-E NEWS
0311 NBC NEWS	0335 NBC OTHER REFLECTIONS	0411 NBC NEWS	0435 AP PORTFOLIO

(Louis Goldstein, MA) Found out that NBC and CBS also offer prefeeds of news 5 minutes before hour. Do other nets also do this? For info of Chris Hambly and others--for latest AFRTS sked and freqs send a note to AFRTS-Washington, 1117 N.19th St., Arlington, VA 22209; Attn: Hoyt Wertz, Chief, Broadcast Division. They might even furnish a brochure on their operation.

U S S R (Edwin Southwell, England) It's a pity R. Moscow have to broadcast propaganda in every feature they have. I think most features would be worth listening to if they did not contain it. I have also noted a music feature on Mons at 2135 without any political content. This contained folk songs of Moldavia. It made a refreshing change. Otherwise I would agree with Charley Hoffman that their programmes are slanderous one-sided slop.

(Jonathan Marks, England) R. Moscow's German DX programme is far better than the English one, (i.e. the one beamed to UKOGBANI). They've been running a series on Soviet regional stations while the English boys have been trying to tell us how to connect headphones to the radio set. Obviously the latter was translated from a Soviet Amateur Radio text book because instead of the word 'socket' they used the word 'joint' which made it very confusing listening.

V A T I C A N (Tom Blossom, OH) By far the most disappointing aspect of my European trip was that I had no time to visit RAI, and only a very short time to visit VR, on a holy day no less. Italian Radio never responded to my advance letter. Sat. June 24 I left a tour of St. Peter's Basilica for the 10-min. walk to Vatican Radio. I had guessed it was in the beautiful garden section, but it's in a plain, brown, typical building on the front street of the Vatican across from the Tiber River. Inside the secured building, I found Shawn McCarthy in common clothing in the simple and a bit cluttered English service office. Upstairs, he taped me explaining my trip and impressions of religion on SW. Another flight up we found the control room and a number of very nice broadcasting studios. It didn't appepr quite as sophisticated as the VOA or SBC but very adequate, maybe more modern than the SBC. They had a European-made monitor on their panel. I saw a simple old National SW receiver in one room. M. turned off a tape that we found spinning freely in one room, and smelling like it had been so spinning for some time. No one was visible in the entire control area, although the IS was playing on some frequency.

One half hour is all I had in time. I thanked M. for his friendliness and we said a pleasant good-bye. He promised to put me on the monthly mailing list. VR broadcasts many more languages than does SBC. Facilities are similar, although I didn't see the orchestra-size recording studio at VR that I had seen at SBC. M. did confirm that the VR transmitting site is about 14 km north of Rome. I caught the 64 bus direct to the Stazione Termini (railstation).

EDITOR'S NOTE: As usual we just barely get through the LIP in our allotted 16-pager. Next month RIB will be back with a 36-pager, including free-wheeling discussions in FORUM ON OTHER TOPICS, DON'T YOU BELIEVE..., CLIPPING COPIES, probably information ON RECEIVERS, and REACTIONS TO RIB. AND by popular request, a new regular handy-to-use table showing the new season's times and frequencies of English language broadcasts audible in North America.

R I B O N T A P E. In cooperation with the Handicapped Aid Program, each issue of RIB is now available on cassette tape. If you know someone who is visually handicapped, and could not otherwise enjoy RIB, contact RUTH VOLLRATH, 432 NORTH LYON STREET, MARSHALL, MO 65340, for details; or, preferably, phone her at (816) 886-6585.

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